Niagara, Ont., 1898.

Dear Sir,—

Three years ago, Rev. Canon Bull, the respected President of the Lundy's Lane Historical Society, suggested in his report the placing of a cairn or monument of some kind to commemorate the landing of the United Empire Loyalists on our shores. Since then, at the meeting of the Provincial Historical Association here, the proposition of the Niagara Historical Society in regard to this met with much approval, and a grant was given as the nucleus of a fund.

The expatriation of this people has scarcely any parallel in history except the Acadian Expulsion or that of the Huguenots from France at the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. In all ages and nations it has been the custom to commemorate any great event by some conspicuous pile pointing to Heaven in memory of a victory gained or a deliverance granted, and surely the landing on our shores of a people coming through dangers great and multiform, to an almost wilderness, leaving homes of plenty, is an event to be commemorated—an event which has had results far reaching and important, for it may truly be said that had not the great majority of people in Canada been U. E. Loyalists, the result of the war of 1812 might have been very different, for the strong determination anadians to defend their territory was intensified in the case of those who had suffered so much to maintain the unity of the Empire.

It is proposed to send circulars to all descendants of U. E. Loyalists in the Niagara peninsula, asking advice and assistance; to all Historical Societies in the Province; to petition the Dominion and Provincial Governments for aid; and it is hoped that ere long, in the words of Mr. Coyne, the President of the Provincial Historical Association, there may be a monument here as of Horatius of old, "plain for all folk to see," on the landing place of these patriotic men and women.

Advice is asked as to what form the memorial should take, a cairn, a shaft, a tower, a building; the cost to be aimed at, the place, the inscription, whether the names of families or individuals. The place suggested is the foot of King Street, near the fishery ground, but a late suggestion made is that in view of the increasing contents of the Historical room (so many of these relating to the early settlers) the memorial take the form of a building for the Historical collection, with tower attached.

An answer is respectfully and earnestly requested, to be addressed to the Secretary of the Society. The officers of the Society are:

Patron, Wm. Kirby, F. R. C. S.; President, Miss Carnochan; Vice-President, Henry Paffard; Secretary, Alfred Ball, Treasurer, Mrs. A. Servos; Curator, Capt. Wilkinson.

COMMITTEE.

Rev. J. C. Garrett, W. F. Seymour, B. A., John D. Servos; Mrs. Ascher, Miss Clement.

HON. VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Charles A. F. Ball, Peter Whitmore, Mrs. Roe.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Dr. Scadding, Rev. Canon Bull, Wm. Gibson, M. P., Major Cruikshank, Capt. M. Konkle, R. O. Konkle, Major Hiscott, M.P.P.

June 1981